



CITY OF LODI

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Request for Marked Pedestrian Crosswalk Across Pine Street at Central Avenue

MEETING DATE: October 16, 1996

PREPARED BY: Public Works Director

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the City Council review the following report regarding the installation of a marked pedestrian crosswalk across Pine Street at Central Avenue and take no action.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The following report has been prepared based on a Council Member's request following a citizen's complaint. The citizen requested the installation of a marked pedestrian crosswalk across Pine Street at Central Avenue to accommodate pedestrian traffic generated by the First Baptist Church located at the southwest corner of the intersection. During church services, the on-site parking lot fills and many members park on the north side of Pine Street and cross at Central Avenue. The overflow parking situation has been observed by staff.

Since a similar issue was reviewed with the City Council at the October 2, 1996 meeting, the following report only includes additional information about this location and omits the background material provided at that meeting.

EXISTING CONDITIONS: Pine Street and Central Avenue are two-lane collector streets with residential uses located adjacent to the intersection, except for the church as noted above. Traffic volumes on Pine Street and Central Avenue are 6,500 and 1,400 vehicles per day, respectively. Speed limits are 30 and 25 mph, respectively. Available accident data from 1987 to the present indicates there has been no pedestrian-related accidents at this location. Prior to 1990, a painted crosswalk was in place at this intersection. It was not replaced following a 1990 pavement overlay. Two complaints were received shortly after the overlay and the reasoning behind not replacing the crosswalks was explained to the callers.

RECOMMENDATION: Given the lack of accidents, the relatively infrequent use of the crossing, and other studies which would discourage use of a painted crosswalk in this circumstance, staff recommends the crosswalk not be replaced.

FUNDING: None.


Jack L. Ronsko
Public Works Director

Prepared by Richard C. Prima, Jr., City Engineer

JLR/RCP/lm

cc: Police Chief
Street Superintendent
Associate Traffic Engineer

APPROVED: _____


H. Dixon Flynn -- City Manager

CITY COUNCIL

DAVID P. WARNER, Mayor
PHILLIP A. PENNINO
Mayor Pro Tempore
RAY G. DAVENPORT
STEPHEN J. MANN
JACK A. SIEGLOCK

CITY OF LODI

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H. DIXON FLYNN
City Manager
JENNIFER M. PERRIN
City Clerk
RANDALL A. HAYS
City Attorney

October 22, 1996

First Baptist Church
19 S. Central Avenue
Lodi, CA 95240

SUBJECT: Installation of Crosswalk Across Pine Street at Central Avenue

The following letter has been prepared in response to a request received by City Council from a member of the church to paint a crosswalk across Pine Street at Central Avenue. A painted or "marked" crosswalk existed at this location prior to 1990 but was not replaced following a street maintenance project. The decision to not repaint the crosswalk was based on some interesting findings related to the false perception of safety pedestrians perceive when using marked crosswalks. The City has been removing some crosswalks based on this information in hopes of reducing the number of pedestrian accidents in the City, particularly since an evaluation performed by the State Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) indicated that Lodi has a higher than average number of pedestrian accidents in comparison to other cities of similar population. There have been no reported pedestrian accidents at this intersection from 1987 (beginning of records) to the present.

Publications related to pedestrian safety indicate that while more pedestrians use marked crosswalks, there is a disproportionately higher number of accidents occurring in marked than unmarked crosswalks. This appears to be due to the false sense of security perceived by pedestrians when using marked crosswalks. Based on these factors crosswalks should be marked to guide pedestrians and not used as a safety device. Two articles related to this matter are enclosed for your review.

The decision to remove crosswalks is not made arbitrarily. Considerations are given to the location of the crossing, type of traffic control at the intersection and whether the crossing is on a suggested school route. Discussion regarding the replacement of a marked crosswalk at this intersection took place at the October 16, 1996, City Council meeting. Staff was directed to replace the painted crosswalk only upon receipt of a letter requesting the replacement from an authorized representative of the church. If, after reviewing this information, you wish to send this letter, please address it to Richard C. Prima, Jr., City Engineer, P.O. Box 3006, Lodi, CA, 95241-1910.


Jack L. Ronsko
Public Works Director

JLR/RSK/pmf
Enclosures

cc: City Manager
City Council
City Engineer
Associate Traffic Engineer

BAPTIST.DOC

RESOLUTION NO. 96-155

A RESOLUTION OF THE LODI CITY COUNCIL
APPROVING THE MARKED PEDESTRIAN CROSSWALK ACROSS
PINE STREET AT CENTRAL AVENUE

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BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lodi City Council does hereby approve a marked pedestrian crosswalk across Pine Street at Central Avenue, as shown on Exhibit A attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Dated: October 16, 1996

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I hereby certify that Resolution No. 96-155 was passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Lodi in a regular meeting held October 16, 1996, by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS - DAVENPORT, MANN, PENNINO,
SIEGLOCK AND WARNER (MAYOR)

NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS - NONE

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS - NONE

ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS - NONE

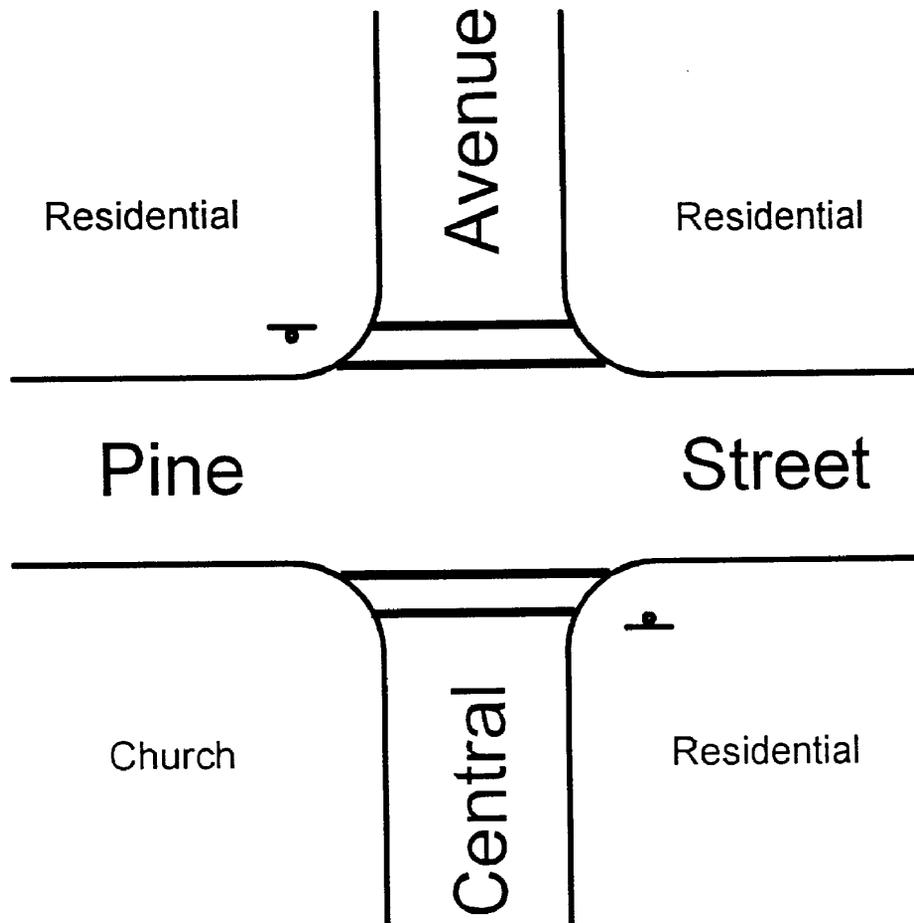

JENNIFER M. PERRIN
City Clerk



CITY OF LODI

**Pine Street at
Central Avenue**

Existing Conditions



LEGEND

 - Existing Stop Signs